

**AREA BOARD XIII
STRATEGIC PLAN 2011-2016
GOALS/BENCHMARKS/STRATEGIES**

COMMUNITY SUPPORTS:

GOAL: Area Board XIII will work to insure that individuals with developmental disabilities and their families receive the appropriate supports and services they are entitled to.

Benchmark: Area Board XIII will conduct/participate in a minimum of 4 trainings each year designed to educate and empower consumers and their families regarding their rights under the Lanterman Act, Self-Determination, Individualized Program Plan (IPP) Development, Individualized Education Program (IEP) Basics, etc. in English (and Spanish whenever possible). We will reach a minimum collective total of 100 people in these trainings.

Strategies:

- Support and advocate for a minimum of 60 people at IEP's, IPP's, Informal Meetings and Fair Hearings, as well as provide advocacy related to issues such as housing, transportation, etc.
- Advocate for community providers to offer services that are needed, and alert consumers/families to the availability of such resources.
- When available, will utilize grant money to assist in creating/enhancing programs to meet the needs of individuals not otherwise served.
- Advocate for improved funding for vendors that provide direct services to people with developmental disabilities.

CROSS CUTTING:

Goal: Area Board XIII will increase their role in the community by expanding their interactions with public offices and officials, and by building the political power of the disability community.

Benchmark: Annually Area Board XIII will have met with each legislator in the two county areas to provide information and education about the issues and concerns related to people with disabilities and their families.

Strategies:

- Develop “Fact Sheets” to use when meeting with legislators.
- Invite legislators to meetings and events to raise awareness of issues affecting people with disabilities.
- Continue to assist in the coordination of the Annual Legislative Breakfast designed to reach a minimum of 500 participants.
- Build political power among constituents through voter registration and by providing informational presentation prior to the elections that will reach a minimum of 100 people.
- Participate in the Disability Action Coalition to encourage cross disability support of issues.
- Promotion of “Inclusion” “People First Language” and “Ability Awareness” to media outlets.

Education and Early Intervention:

Goal: Local educational agencies provide opportunities for life-long learning for people with developmental disabilities.

Benchmark: ABXIII will also conduct/participate in at least 4 educational/informational trainings per year, and will reach a minimum of 100 people through these 4 trainings.

Strategies:

- Will compile, and have available various resources for individuals to access on-line and at our office.
- Provide trainings on IEP development, Lanterman Act, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), changes to the law when they occur, etc. Will reach a minimum of 100 people yearly through these trainings.
- Participate in educational conferences such as IEP Day (500 people), Fiesta Educativa, (100 people) school district fairs (50 people each at minimum), etc.
- Have the Area Board XIII website link on school district websites.

- Continue to educate medical residents on the issues encountered by families when a child is initially diagnosed with a disability, through Operation Housecall, and expand this program to reach a minimum of 25 residents per year.
- Enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Exceptional Family Resource Center to provide joint trainings and advocacy for families of children with disabilities in the Imperial Valley. We will reach a minimum of 50 families per year.
- Form a local coalition of school employees, regional center, day programs, families, department of rehabilitation, and other interested individuals to improve and standardize transition planning.
- In coordination with families and various local agencies and post-secondary institutions, will develop a summer program to increase the success of students going on to post secondary education.

Employment:

Goal: People with developmental disabilities will have an expanded range of employment opportunities available to them.

Benchmark: There will be an increase of community based jobs/microenterprises that pay minimum wage and benefits, when that is the standard for non-disabled employees.

Strategies:

- Participate in the planning and promotion of the California Employment First Policy.
- Support the development of apprenticeships that will lead to employment opportunities.

Health:

Goal: Accessible, quality health and dental care will be available to all people with developmental disabilities.

Benchmark: Regular, routine health care is available on demand.

Strategies:

- ABXIII will provide community trainings to assist individuals to make the transition to managed care successful. We will conduct at least one training in both San Diego and Imperial County, and reach a minimum of 75 people between the two trainings.
- Encourage and support provision of age appropriate trainings on sexuality and self-esteem.

Quality Assurance:

Goal: Individuals and their families will increase their ability to advocate for themselves, and will exercise control, choice and flexibility in the services they choose to receive.

Benchmark: Will increase the number of individuals and family members who know their rights and responsibilities by 100 people through information and trainings annually.

Strategies:

- Support People First conferences in San Diego (500 people) and Imperial County (100 people).
- Provide support and training to local People First groups, assist with the development of new groups when requested, and support the representative to People First of California.
- Support efforts to implement the Individual Choice Budget model, and Money Follows the Person.

Provide trainings for consumers on self-determination, self-advocacy and leadership – (100 people minimum).

Goal: People with developmental disabilities will receive quality living, employment and educational services.

Benchmark: People with developmental disabilities and their families will report that they are satisfied with the services and supports they receive, and feel that they are respected and listened to when problems arise.

Strategies:

- Area Board XIII will conduct surveys for the Quality Assessment Project, an element of the CMS Quality Assurance Plan for the state of California.
- Will advocate for improved funding for existing programs, based on quality and performance measurements.
- Bring together consumers, providers and family members to develop “best practices” in a variety of settings.
- Implement a system of recognition and rewards for those providers who meet and exceed the expectations of their constituents.
- Recognize those employers who truly include individuals with disabilities in their hiring efforts.
- Work to develop alternative day programs to meet the needs of ALL consumers, particularly those with autism and health concerns.
- Annually convene focus groups in each county to address the level of satisfaction people are experiencing, and identify where improvements need to be made.

Recreation:

Goal: Opportunities will be available for every individual to enjoy the activities and leisure pursuits of their choosing.

Benchmark: People with developmental disabilities will be able to access and enjoy the same recreational opportunities as the general public does.

Strategies:

- Work with Therapeutic Parks and Recreation to explore new ideas for ways of providing supports to all people no matter what the disability.
- Presentations will be provided to the various clubs in the community to encourage the expansion of their outreach to people with disabilities.

Governance:

Goal: To recruit and train a full complement of board members (17) that reflect our diverse community, and are active and effective in their duties as established in the law.

Benchmark: Maintain a full complement of board members.

- Continually advertise and recruit individuals with developmental disabilities, family members and interested community members to serve on the board of directors, as well as various ad hoc committees.
- Expand our board recruitment efforts to include a broader cross section of our community.
- Work with the SCDD office to insure that all applications for Governor Appointees are complete, and that they are presented to the Governor's Appointment Secretary in a timely fashion.
- Continue to be in communication with the Board of Supervisors office in both San Diego and Imperial County regarding upcoming vacancies and appointment needs.
- Improve website and brochures.
- Increase visibility by utilizing Facebook.
- Encourage each board member to participate in the identification of issues in the community, and actively participate in problem solving and capacity building regarding these issues.
- Review By-Laws every two years (due in 2012).
- Evaluate the Executive Director annually.
- Encourage each board member to mentor and support new board members.